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Claim Amendments

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a measured fluid pressure near a fluid filter in an internal combustion engine;

The method of claim 1, wherein the value is determining a value based on engine speed, engine load, and fluid temperature;

comparing the measured fluid pressure to the value, yielding a compared pressure;

when the compared pressure exceeds an established value, indicating that a potential fluid filter problem is present.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, further comprising the step of activating at least one timer based on indication of the presence of a potential fluid filter problem.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, wherein the fluid is at least one of gasoline, diesel, and oil.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, wherein the measured fluid pressure is taken near an outlet of the filter.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]]2, wherein the measured fluid pressure is taken near an inlet of the filter.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~10, wherein the measured fluid pressure is taken near an outlet of the filter.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~10, wherein the measured fluid pressure is taken near an inlet of the filter.

10. (Currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a measured fluid pressure near a filter in an internal combustion engine;

~~The method of claim 7, wherein the value is~~determining a value that is based on
engine speed, engine load, and fluid temperature;

determining a difference between the value and the measured fluid pressure; and

determining whether to indicate a warning condition for the filter based on the
difference.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~10, further comprising the steps of comparing the difference to at least one predetermined value, and activating at least one timer based on the difference.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~10, further comprising the step of indicating the warning condition.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~10, further comprising the step of communicating the warning condition to a radio frequency transmitter for transmission to a remote location.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[14]]~~17, wherein the pressure sensor is located in the fluid near at least one of a discharge of the filter and an inlet of the filter.

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[14]]~~17, further comprising a display for indicating the warning condition for the filter when the results of the comparison exceed an established value.

17. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a pressure sensor arranged and constructed to measure a pressure of a fluid near a filter for the fluid of an internal combustion engine, yielding a measured fluid pressure;

The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the value is based on an engine control module arranged and constructed to determine a value based on engine speed, engine load, and fluid temperature, and to compare the value to the measured fluid pressure, and based on results of the comparison, to indicate a warning condition for the filter.

18. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[14]]~~17, further comprising a timer arranged to be activated based on the results of the comparison.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~2, wherein the potential fluid filter problem is at least one of an obstruction, a restriction, and clogging in the filter.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~2, wherein the potential fluid filter problem causes an imminent loss in engine performance.